

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation. It would be one thing if Sinclair gave their stations the option of airing the anti-Kerry documentary. But by forcing their stations to air it, without a "fair and balanced" counterpoint, they are betraying the good faith expected of them in return for their free use of our public airwaves. Sinclair is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.